

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A locking/unlocking mechanism for an operable cover of a body such as a printer to lock and unlock the body with a single operation and to a printer having an operable cover and a locking/unlocking mechanism for the operable cover. The operable cover is locked when a cover side engaging part in the cover engages a body-side engaging part in the body. The printer has a cover opening button 10 which is depressed to a first operating position 10B, causing a locking lever 14 in the locking/unlocking mechanism 11 to slide from a locked position 14A to an unlocked position 14B,. The locking lever has an engaging channel 15 which releases the cover-side engaging part 12 of the operable cover 4, thereby disengaging the operable cover 4 but not opening it. When the cover opening button 10 is further depressed to a second (final) operating position 10C, the locking lever 14 swings vertically pivoting on a guide pin 24, which causes a cover-lifting surface 16 of the locking lever 14 to push the cover-side engaging part 12 of the operable cover 4 upward which opens the operable cover 4. The operable cover 4 is thus both unlocked and opened by simply pressing the cover opening button 10.